The Progressive garmer. PROPRIETOR. L. L. POLK, EDITOR. BAYLUS CADE,

J. W. DENMARK, - Business Manager. Raleigh, N. C.

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THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, Raleigh, N. C. RALEIGH, N. C., FEB. 10, 189

This paper entered as second-class matter at the Pos Office in Raleigh, N. C.]

The Progressive Farmer is the Oficial Organ of the N. C. Farmers State Alliance.

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THE editor of this paper has been sort of a Baptist a long time. And been in the habit of thinking that he would continue with those deep water people to the end of his pilgrimage. But recent transactions in editorial circles hereabout has se him to thinking upon the question, as to whether he would not better join the Quakers.

It has been practically arranged that Parnell is to retire from the leadership of the Irish party in the English Parliament and give place to Mr. Justin McCarthy. The new leader is a man of parts, and there is not a single savin upon his public or private character. We hope his accession to the leadership will mark the time of Ireland's emergence from condage to haughty English power.

A NEW daily paper, The Evening Capital, with Col. John C. Tipton, late of Greensboro, as editor, made its first appearance Thursday of last week The new paper is Democratic in politics, is neat, bright and newsy. We ter and experience; and he is very welcome this new candidate for public simple indeed who needs to be told favor; and most heartily wish it great | that these men will fight hardest financial prosperity and a wide field of when they seem not to fight at all. usefulness. Raleigh now has four dailies, two morning and two evening | with fairness and even indulgence by papers. May they all have abundant the friends of the commission. Let prosperity.

WE assure Miss H. W. C. that we have changed her father's paper to her address, and it will come right that can prevent independent Alliance along to her. We would not lose her out of our list friends for many times the price of the paper. But we will not take a mortgage on her father's dog. The editor of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER likes a good dog; and he would not ask any old hunter to give a mortgage on his dog. We are also very sure that Miss H. W. C. must be a good girl, and we wish her much happiness. Can't so good a girl get us some new subscribers, and write us a news letter sometimes? We shall be ever so much obliged if she wil!.

"THE Haw Pond Farmers' Alliance Cornet Band of Neatman, Stokes county are talking of getting a cotton bagging uniform." We should like to see said band dressed out in cotton bagging. That is about the last sort of dress from which we should expect anything musical to proceed. But then there is no telling. The Alliance has set numerous politicians of both old parties to singing penitential psalms, and we make no doubt at all of its ability to get music out of cotton bagging. An institution that can set a lot of old Congressmen to beating time to penitential music might seem to be able to get rhythm out of any-

bowing and scraping which some all matters that come before it.

empty headed Americans do before European celebrities when they come to this country. An actress from France-a very shallow, vain woman -comes to this country, and she hardly touches land before the news papers send reporters and artists to interview her and sketch her and her dogs, and to tell about her gowns and jewelry. Such miserable nonsense is enough to make Uncle Sam think that his children, in large numbers, are suffering with softening of the brain-that is, he might think so, if he could convince him. self that they have any brains to

X WE are sorry to see that our neighgret that he does take sides against it. And we regret this all the more be- the State's exhibit respectable, w cause we think the great denomina tion which the Biblical Recorder represents in North Carolina has more of good to gain from the education of the the control of the State wherein teachschool for girls.

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION.

Is it not about time that the Rail-

way Commission bill should be re ported back to the Senate for final action? We have been in favor of giving the railroads an opportunity to be heard upan the bill. But we think time enough has been already given, and we urge the friends of the bill to bring it forward at once. The opinion is freely expressed that the delay already had has weakened the bill in the minds of the members of the General Assembly. The friends of the meas they suppose that the most determined opposition will not be brought to bear to defeat this bill. The railroad men and their friends have brains, charac We think the roads have been treated there be no more delay. We have no fear of the result; but if anything should occur to defeat this bill, there is, in our opinion, no power on earth action in the election of the next General Assembly. Those Democrats and Republicans who are acting with the Alliance, must not falter in this mat. ter if they wish to continue their connection with us beyond the life of the present legislature. We say this because we do not intend to have it said when independent action comes that anybody was taken by surprise. The Alliance in North Carolina has nothing to conceal, it has no surprise to spring. It speaks out plainly and says what it wants; and it declares its readiness to act with any party, or parties, or any sections of parties. But the co-opera-

States has decided in the Sayard case that the court has jurisdiction over the District Court of Alaska to prevent it from usurping the jurisdiction of the United States. It is said the decision gives great satisfaction in Canada. It seems that the British ministry has scored a point over Mr. Blaine in the Behring Sea trouble. We are glad to know that no question of international politics, no matter how grave it may be, can influence the highest court in the United States to swerve one hair's breadth from the One of the New York dailies gives justice of a cause, even when that jusa very elaborate account of the land- tice dictates the downing of so grand ing of Bernhardt in Gotham, which an institution as our own State De nothing. There is nothing more sick. the United States can be relied upon

SHALL THE APPROPRIATION BE MADE?

We suppose that everybody has taken it for granted that the present legislature would make an appropria tion for the World's Fair to be held at Chicago in 1892. We have understood that it was the general opinion that the appropriation would be twenty five thousand dollars.

To us it seems certain that twentyfive thousand dollars is not enough money to enable the State to make showing at Chicago that would be in sight of respectability. We think the most that could be done with such a sum, would be to provide the means to enable some half dozen persons from bor, the Biblical Recorder is opposed to this State to attend the Fair, and have the training school for girls. We do a good time. We are, therefore, not not question our friend's right to take in favor of the twenty five thousand sides against the school. We only re- dollar appropriation. Unless we can give enough enough money to make much prefer that no appropriation should be made at all.

We do not believe that the presen General Assembly can innocently take masses than any other denomination funds out of the pockets of our people in the State. Of course we do not at this time to assist in making a know certainly how it is, but we have National show. It would be much been in the habit of thinking that the better-much more honorable and Baptists of North Carolina were prac- commendable in every way-to take tically solid on the subject of education | the money demanded for the World's for the masses. We understand that Fair and put it into the public school the Biblical Recorder is in favor of fund of the State. It is certain, that furnishing common school education if we build up the intelligence and to the masses by taxation. But we character of our entire citizenship, the do not see how this can be done to the development of our natural resources best advantage without schools under | will follow in due time. And it is by no means certain, or even probable, ers can be trained for their work. We that the small sum talked of for this say again that we are sorry we cannot show, will result in any appreciable count the Biblical Recorder in the list hastening of our development. We of papers friendly to the training are, therefore, opposed to any appropriation by this legislature to the

World's Fair. If a poor man, in plain clothes, has received an invitation to a fancy ball, he can decline the invitation with dignity and honor. But if he accepts the invitation, he must dress himself in becoming style, if he is not willing to be the object of ridicule. North Carolina has been invited to such a fancy ball. She can decline the invitation without compromising her ancient dignity, or diminishing her unsullied honor, and, God bless her! we hope she will have the spirit to use what little is left to her in her poverty in ure will simply deceive themselves if the enlightenment of her children; and leave her richer sisters to dress them selves in tensel and dance at public shows if they will. She is no: forced to attend this show. She can stay at home, and think of Mecklenburg, and Halifax and Guilford Court House and be happier than any giddy Com monwealth that shall run and frolic and kick up her heels at Chicago.

AN EYE-OPENER.

We print in another column of this paper the full text of a bill introduced into the Senate of the United States, by Mr. McConnell, on the 15th of last month, entitled A BILL providing for a settlement between the United States and certain railway corporatims, etc., which we ask the careful attention of every reader of THE PROGRESSIVE

will be seen that the United States loaned to the six railways, named therein, its six per centum thirty year est and all. bonds to the amount of sixty four dollars; that the United States has of eighty-six million three hundred and sixty-eight dollars; that upon The Supreme Court of the United | these bonds and accrued interest the railways mentioned have paid to the United States only twenty four million three hundred and twenty four thousand nine hundred and ninety four dollars; that the present debt of these roads to the United States is one hundred and twenty-six million six hundred and sixty-two thousand four hundred and eighty-six dollars; that the debt of these corporations to the United States is annually increasing at the rate of about two million dollars; that these corporations owe another debt of nearly sixty six million now about to fall due; that this last debt is secured by first mortgage bonds of these corporations; that the debt seems to us to be making ado about partment. The Supreme Court of to the United States is secured by this chapter of crime. It seems that

such foreclosure, the United States will lose its entire debt; that the in come of these railways has been upon an average eleven million dollars an nually, a sum amply sufficient to have paid the debt to the United States; and that the United States has no power to foreclose its mortgage upon the non pay nent of interest now due.

From the foregoing summation of facts it appears that the United States has been pretty liberal and patient with these corporations. Indeed, we may say, the United States has been liberal and patient with these corporations to an extent that finds no parallel so far as we know, in the history of govern

We want to say distinctly and with emphasis, that not one dollar of the millions voted by the Congress of the United States to these corporations belonged to the government. Every dollar of these millions belonged to the people of this country. Every dollar of this money was wrung out of the people by taxation, ostensibly to meet the necessary expenses of economical government; really to be voted away to enrich these private corporations. Not one dollar of the one hundred and twenty six and a half million now due the United States from these corporations belongs to the government. This enormous sum be longs to the whole people of the United States; and should be in the Treasury this minute to help lessen the burdens of taxation under which the people are groaning.

hope we are fair minded. But we say with deliberation, that to vote the people's money to these private cor porations was an action with no higher moral grade than that of theft. When these taxes were collected there was no purpose expressed or im plied to make any such use of it. The purpose, both expressed and implied. was, that it should be used to pay the necessary expenses of the govern ment. And to take money from a people to be used for their benefit, and then vote it away to private cor porations is, to obtain money under false pretences and is no better than theft. Every man who took part in voting this enormous pile of the peo ple's money to these corporations has the essential crime of theft upon his soul. It matters not how it was done, what arguments of expediency were used, what hopes of material devel opment were held out, the fact remains plain and bald, that Congress. men voted to private corporations millions of money, not one cent of which belonged to those who did the voting, or was in their hands for any such purpose.

But what we have said only indi cates a part of this shameless thieving legislative transaction. The men who put their dirty hands into the coun try's Treasury and gave the people's money to these corporations took as security a second mortgage upon the subsidized roads. They deliberately, knowingly, corruptly and wickedly allowed these roads to borrow money in enormous sums from the outside world and give for the securing of these outside debts a first mortgage on From the preamble to this bill it all their property and franchises, thus making it certain that the United States would lose its entire debt inter-

In the examination of this transac million s'x hundred and twenty three tion of unparallelled wickedness it thousand five hundred and twelve further appears that the Congress did not provide for the foreclosure of its paid interest on this loan to the amount | mortgage upon the failure of the roads to make prompt payment of the tion must be real and not seeming and sixty-three thousand nine hundred interest upon the debt. For the Su preme Court has decided that default in the payment of interest did not, does not, and cannot, confer upon the United States any power to foreclose its mortgage. So, it appears, that Congress not only voted these corporations millions of the people's money, but it took good care to see that the government should have no power to collect the debt until all of the indebt edness covered by the first mortgage had been paid, principal and interest. The plain state of facts is this, the debt upon these railways secured by a first mortgage is now ready to fall due; and if the properties are all ab sorbed in meeting this debt, then Uncle Sam may whistle for his money.

> But we are not yet to the end of about to be foreclosed; that, in case of forfeited and compel the liquidation tion to health.

of their indebtedness. Congress has had this right, as it seems, for years; and yet it has not exercised its right in the face of the fact that these roads have benn earning annually eleven millions in dividends. With all the facts before them, Congress has al lowed these roads to run on until the interest on the original debt equals the principal.

The end, however, is not yet reached. In addition to the money taken out of the people's pockets and given to these roads, millions upon millions of acres of the public lands have been given to them. These lands are in the hands of these corporation at this mo ment, and are held for fancy prices against citizens of the Republic, who seek homes and the rewards of honest toil upon the public domain. A citizen might take a foreigner out upon one of these subsidized land grant railways, and, pointing to the vast expanse of level country stretching away in every direction, say, "See, this is our public domain." But the words of exultation and pride might be scarcely out of his mouth before a uniformed and brass buttoned official of one of these corporations might step up and say, "Sir, you are mistaken. This is not the public domain. This land, for fifty miles on each side of the track, belongs to the railway-is the gift of the United States to the railroad I have the honor to be con nected with."

If there is anything in the history of modern legislation more stupen-We think we are moderate, and we dously wicked, more impudently brazen and shameless, more deliberately and coldly larcenous, more outrageously flagitious than this granting of the committee on coinage, weights the people's money and the people's lands to these private corporations, our attention has never been called

> Wish these facts before us, will any man say that the Farmers' Alliance, with its motto, "Equal rights to all and special privileges to none," has come upon the arena of politics one hour too soon? We trow not.

AN EXCELLENT CATALOGUE.

We have received from T. S. Hubbard Co., of Fredonia, N. Y., a copy of their new "Descriptive Catalogue of Grape Vines and Small Fruits,"the best thing of its kind we have

This company is one of the most meritorious and reliable grape vine and small fruit propagators in the American Union.

One very important and highly in structive feature of their catalogue is a table of the "comparative merits of all the most popular and approved va rieties, as to size of berry and cluster, quality for table use, earliness in ripening, hardiness of bud and cane. health of foliage, vigor of growth and constitution, productiveness, shipping quality and compactness of cluster. This table should be in the hands of every grape grower, as it will enable him to see at a glance which are the most desirable and profitable varieties to put under cultivation.

The catalogue also contains valuable hints to vineyard owners, together with an admirable description of varie ties of grapes and small fruits.

We can most heartily commend this model catalogue to all the readers of this paper, and advise them to send for it without delay.

JUST PRAISE OF A GOOD MAN.

last week, in acknowledging a call foundly concerned. We are not here from Dr. F. T. Fuller, assistant physi- to ask you to consider this bill as Dem cian of the North Carolina Insane | ocrats or Republicans but in the name Asylum at Raleigh, very truly said: of those we represent; to ask that you "There is not a more faithful public consider it and vote on it as represenofficer in this or any other State than tatives of the great American people. Dr. Fuller. The State owes him more | We trust you may find it consistent than it will ever pay him for his faith. with your sense of duty as a commitful services for so many years. In a tee, to report the bill to the House at quiet way he has done a vast deal for the earliest practical moment and thus unfortunate humanity." - Statesville let it be voted to stand or fall on its

This is deserved praise of one of the most faithful, unselfish, devoted and useful men that ever gave his life and his every endeavor to the amelioration of the condition of his unfortunate fellow creatures. Dr. Fuller is not only one of the most useful and valuable of men to the State, but is as well one of legislature from this county be rethe most modest and deserving. The State can never pay him the debt it owes for his fidelity, skill and useful. ness. We are glad to know that he has been restored to his wonted health. -State Chronicle.

We have not the pleasure of knowing Dr. Fuller. But we have never heard his name mentioned by any one who did not praise him for his great worth, and gentle, kindly power to minister to the happiness of all his friends and associates. We congratusecond mortgage bonds; that the first Congress has had the right all along late Dr. Fuller and the institution he ening to a plain American than the to be impartial in the adjudication of mortgage upon these corporations is to declare the charters of these roads has so long served upon his restora-

OUR OFFICERS BEFORE CON-GRESS.

The Legislative Council of the N. F A. & I. U. met at the office of President L. L. Polk, 344 D. St., Washing. ing, on the morning of February 5th

President Polk called the first ses. sion to order and a committee on silver legislation was appointed. At the evening session this committee made the following report:

UNLIMITED COINAGE DEMANDED.

Resolved, That we regard it as a high duty enjoined upon Congress by the Constitution to provide for the unlimited coinage of both the precious metals, gold and silver, to the end that the people of the several States may be provided with a circulating medium. We express our surprise, regret and indignation that this duty has been so long delayed and neglected, contrary, as we believe, not only to the duty we have mentioned, but to the best inter. est of the masses of our people, who are suff-ring the pangs of poverty and stagnation of business caused by a want of sufficient circulating mediums. We believe and charge that such delay and neglect has been occasioned by an undue influence in our governmental policies by those whose interest it is to contract the currency and subserve monopolies and money lenders. We therefore urge upon Congress the demand heretofore made by the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union of Congress for the free and unlimited coinage of silver upon the same terms and conditions that gold is now coined. We express our earnest condemna

tion of the exercise of the arbitrary power which prevented a fair consid eration of a free coinage bill at the last session of Congress, and in this connection we give expression to the hope that the free coinage bill which passed the Senate during the present session and is now being considered in and measures of the House shall not be suppressed, but shall be speedily reported back to the House, and enacted into a law. With proper respect and deference to our Representatives on the committee in the House, we say that our efforts to unduly delay a report on that bill so as to prevent action thereon by the House in the few remaining days of this Congress will merit and will receive still further condemnation by the farmers and laborers of this country. We have waited many years for the simple justice of having both the previous metals restored to free coinage, and hereby declare our determination to press the fight on this line until this relief is accorded to the laboring and producing masses of our nation, and hold responsible the men, irrespective of party, who obstruct in any way the legislative enactment of this just meas ure so strongly demanded by the laboring classes of all parties.

The council adjourned to the capitol, where the delegates in a body ap peared before the committee on coinage, weights and measures. They were received by Chairman Wickham, to whom President Polk introduced each member of the Council. The Chairman stated that the Council was was present in the interest of the bill for the free coinage of silver, and that it would like to be heard briefly on that subject. He introduced Presi dent Polk, who said :

MR. CHAIRMAN, AND GENTLEMEN OF

THE COMMITTEE: "Our body, composed of the Presidents of the various State organizations of the N. F. A, & I. U., and whose jurisdiction extends to thirty five States of the Union, accept with due appreciation the cour tesy so kindly extended by your committee to speak briefly as to the free coinage bill now in your hands. We are not here to discuss that measure nor is it our purpose to retard or delay action, but rather to urge action on this great and important measure in The Raleigh Christian Advocate of which our constituents are so pro

BALLOT REFORM.

MR. EDITOR:-At a late meeting of Mecklenburg County Alliance, the following was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the members of the quested to endeavor to have enacted the Australian ballot or some other secret ballot system.

I was requested by the mover of the above resolution -Capt. S. B. Alexan ier-to forward it to you for publication. .

Yours fraternal y, L M. MCALISTER, Sec'y.

If you wish the address of your pa per changed from one postoffice to an other, tell us from which office to change it as well as the office to which to send it. And be sure always to mention your postoffice when you write us. You will save us much an noyance. Be observing in these things.